



Photo by Todd Berenger

## Presidential visit

President George W. Bush shakes hands with TEAM KIRTLAND members during his visit to Albuquerque, March 26. President Bush came to Albuquerque to deliver remarks regard-

ing efforts to dismantle the barriers to homeownership at Expo New Mexico's Leon Harms Youth Hall. The president also met with the governors of New Mexico's Pueblos. The president was in town for two hours and then traveled on to Arizona.

# Code Silver

## Exercise tests medical response to chemical, biological threat

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*People all over base are turning up sick and the rate of infection is alarming.*

*Initial study of the symptoms has medical personnel scrambling to order more lab tests and consult one another for answers. Could this slow, insidious spread of a vicious illness be the result of a biological attack no one saw happen?*

These and other questions were the topic of a tabletop exercise called Code Silver, held here Tuesday that tested the knowledge and response of 377th Medical Group and on- and off-base agencies.

Military and civilian personnel teamed with local, state and federal agencies to walk through the base's capabilities against a chemical or biological

attack.

The morning's exercise was centered around a chemical attack involving fluorine gas. The afternoon's scenario was a slow spread of sickness finally identified as pneumonic plague, dispersed by a device in the bowling alley.

"The turnout and participant interaction was great," said Col. Karen Mathews, 377th Medical Group deputy commander. "I gained a greater appreciation of how well community agencies can support base responses to potential chemical and biological situations."

"Code Silver is a scenario and input driven biological and chemical terrorism response game," says Lt. Col. Wade Weisman of the Air Force Materiel Command Surgeon General's Office, "This means participants' responses dictate the direction of play. As a result, many different outcomes are possible."

This particular exercise is unique in

many other ways.

★ The exercise is manually executed and non-scripted allowing for decision-based, open-ended play.

★ Participants don't need to role play, allowing them to concentrate on their specific jobs and how it benefits the group.

### CODE SILVER

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## Promotion

Maj. Daniel J. Courtois, 898th Munitions Squadron commander, was selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel by a supplemental promotion board.

Major Courtois will put on his new rank upon Senate approval.

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**Turn your  
clocks ahead  
Saturday night**

**73 TEAM  
KIRTLAND  
members are  
deployed in  
15 locations**

**15 days until  
377th Air Base  
Wing Nuclear  
Surety  
Inspection**

**Force  
Protection  
Condition  
ALPHA**

**Straight Talk  
853-4636**